Jacqueline Benitez-Alfaro

Queen’s Garden Worksheet

**1. Describe the *stasis* in the play: where, when, who, what, etc. in a paragraph.**

* The Queen’s Garden takes place in in the Westside of California. The play is a story about Brenda and Kali. It starts off like a loving high school sweetheart story, but eventually life ends up taking them in two separate paths, but that does not mean that their love ends. This plays is kind of like the epitome of the quote that says “If you love something, let it go, if it comes back, it was meant to be”.

**2. What is the *intrusion*?**

* I think the intrusion of this play is what put so much strain in Brenda and Kali’s relationship, which was separating them intellectually (gifted/non-gifted classes). I think that discouraged Kali from doing better for himself and led him to fall for the bad influences. Eventually, Kali became a drug dealer and Brenda continued going to school.

**3. What is the *unique factor*?**

* I think the unique factor of this play is how both of the main characters are minorities who have to deal with gang violence and drugs. It also shows how people don’t necessarily have to fall for the bad choices. For example, both Kali and Brenda grow up in the bad part of California, the “Westside”, but only one of them went down he wrong path. It’s more about what you set your mind to.

**4. What is the *dramatic question* that should be answered by the end of the play?**

* What will happen between Kali and Brenda?
* Will Brenda leave the Westside?
* Will Kali choose to leave the bad path forever?

**5. Provide an illustration of the *two kinds of exposition* that the play has in it.**

* The events and tension leading up to the shooting show almost a behind the scenes of why the Westside is so bad, and it shows how desperate the people in this area are and how they seek a “fast” way to make money. A lot of people in this area are okay with this happening around them, it seems as if they get used to it and become numb to any of the consequences.

**6. Identify the most *theatrical moment* in the play and of what importance it seems to be.**

* I think the most theatrical moment is the shooting that killed Kali. Brenda lost the love of her life and he became the prime example of why she wanted to leave the Westside in the first place. She did not want to suffer from the violence anymore.

**7. List some of the *themes* of the play.**

* Social class
* Violence/Gangs
* Gender Roles
* Racism

**8. What do the principal characters *want* and what are some *obstacles* that stand in the way of them getting what they want?**

* Brenda and Kali want to be with each other, but their goals and ambitions are very different from each other. Brenda goes to school in order to seek a better life for herself and leave Westside, but her love doesn’t let her detach herself from Kali, who she loves, but he is too involved with the drug and violence in the Westside.

**9. Describe some possible *images* in the play and how does the *title* help us understand the play.**

* Brenda always seemed amazed by Aunt Mary’s Garden. I feel like the garden gave her hope. The view and symbolism of a flower blooming and growth might have appealed to Brenda since she wanted to leave the Westside and create a better life for herself. The garden was almost like her safe haven.

**10. Briefly define the *family relationships* that are examined in the play.**

* Brenda seems to have a very stable family relationship. She steps up and takes responsibility in her household because she has that “leader personality. Although she has to leave her family in order to seek a better life away from the drugs and gang violence, she looks at the greater picture and the best interest for herself and her family